

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 26, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In general, priming station ~~122~~ 102 includes a base unit 103 and a top unit 104. When a chip is positioned within priming station 102, the chip is positioned on a pressure block 118, or pressure plate, which, along with a pressure pad 114, is fitted into a base plate 110 that is a part of base unit 103. Pressure block 118 includes an opening 117 through which a sipper on a chip may be inserted. Similarly, pressure pad 114 includes an indentation 116 which is arranged to accommodate a sipper. It should be understood that the locations of opening 117 and indentation 116 may vary, depending upon the orientation of a sipper with respect to the chip. Pressure block 118 and pressure pad 114, which may be a foam pad, effectively function as a spring to facilitate the placement and removal of a chip on base plate 110.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 10, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Priming station 102, as previously mentioned, also generally includes top unit 104 which serves to cover a chip placed on base plate 110 of base unit 103. The top portion, which includes a top plate 134, is typically arranged to support either a manual pump or an automatic pump which is used to prime a chip. Top plate 134 may be coupled through a coupling element such as an adapter 130, *e.g.*, a luerlock, and a gasket 126, *e.g.*, a silicone gasket, to an adapter receptacle 127 in personality module 122. Receptacle 127 includes one or more openings 131 so that pressure which is applied via adapter 130 to personality module 122 may be communicated to each of cavities 208 (shown in Figs. 2A and 2B) within personality module 122, as will be discussed in greater detail below. The adapter 130 and the gasket 126 enable a pump, *e.g.*, a syringe, to be inserted through top plate 134 and personality module 122 to prime a chip.